

Message Text

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65-61
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /047 W
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R 061519Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6978
OSAF/SAFIL WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5671

OSAF/SAFIL FOR FRANK SHRONTZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, NL
SUBJECT: F-16 PROGRAM "HARVEST PARTNER"

1. DEAR FRANK, AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE DUTCH WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PAYMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 45 MILLION DOLLARS AGAINST THEIR F-16 OBLIGATION. I UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION IS THAT THE U.S. SHOULD FIND A WAY TO ACCOMMODATE THEM IF POSSIBLE AND IN THIS I WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREE. A SOLUTION WOULD ENHANCE OUR EFFECTIVENESS HERE PARTICULARLY WITH THE RNLAf.

2. THIS PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS TIME CRITICAL FOR THE DUTCH MILITARY BECAUSE THE MONEY MUST ACTUALLY BE TRANSFERRED BY MID-DECEMBER. IF THIS CANNOT BE DONE CURRENT GON THINKING REGARDING DEFENSE SPENDING LENDS CREDENCE TO THE LIKELIHOOD THAT FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR NON-MILITARY PURPOSES. IT IS ESSENTIAL, THEREFORE, THAT THE PROBLEM BE WORKED EXPEDITIOUSLY SO THAT A SOLUTION WILL NOT COME TOO LATE.

3. IT OCCURS TO ME THAT A SOLUTION MIGHT PERHAPS BE
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FOUND BETWEEN THE DUTCH DESIRE TO PUT THESE FUNDS TO

WORK AND THE PRACTICE OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY TO RECEIVE
PREPAYMENTS IN ADVANCE OF PRODUCTION. BEST REGARDS.
INGDON.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

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